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Date: April 2, 2001


Christopher A. Benfett

#17/20
S. Catlin
5-3-01

PATENT
38413.7

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
Applicant: YAMAMOTO et al.
Serial No.: 09/221,656
Filed: December 23, 1998
Title: PRODUCTION SYSTEM FOR RETAIL
GOODS AND A RAW MATERIAL
ORDERING SYSTEM

Art Unit: 2768
Examiner: F. Polnvi

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the outstanding Office Action issued on October 4, 2000, the period for response to which has been extended by the enclosed Petition for Three Month Extension of Time, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claim 28 with the following claim:

28. A method of manufacturing products, the method comprising the steps of:
collecting sales information about products sold at a plurality of point of sales
terminals;